

The Pocahontas Times.

VOL XLIII NO 49

MARLINTON, POCOHONTAS COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA, JULY 30 1925

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

GREENBRIER VALLEY

From Green County, Pennsylvania, to the Greenbrier Valley, West Virginia, is a long step across the northern part of West Virginia. But I did this between two Sundays, stopping off at home to attend a district conference at Colfax. I spent ten days in the Greenbrier Valley, preaching thirteen times and visited all the centers of Methodist Protestantism in the valley. I examined all the oldest records that could be found, and visited all of the older members of the church who had any knowledge of "former times." I thoroughly investigated conditions, causes and possibilities. But as it is the official prerogative of the President to report such things, I forbear. However, I may be permitted to state as an historical discovery, that the Methodist Protestant Church is not as strong nor as popular in this valley today as it was seventy years ago. And if I should express an opinion, I would say, that, if the day of our opportunity has not already passed, it is time for us to do something or leave the field to others who can take better care of it than we have been doing.

There are no records to show when the Methodist Protestant Church first began to operate in this valley, or who was the first minister to preach here. But in 1842 there was a well organized circuit with well attended quarterly conferences, and a well paid pastor. The Bethel church at Buckeye was one of the earliest organizations. When the Methodist Protestant minister first came into this community he was refused an opportunity to preach where the M. E. minister had been holding services, and John Buckley, not a church member, invited him to preach at his home. The invitation was accepted and a house full of people came to hear the "New Methodist" preach. The people were so well pleased that a number of unconverted men got together and built a log church for the new minister. John Buckley gave the lot and James Rogers split the boards for the roofing. A fine revival was held and many of the men who had built the church were converted. During this meeting seventeen young people left a prayer meeting at the M. E. Church and attended the revival for which they were dismissed from the M. E. Church, and when the M. P. minister opened the door of his church for members, these seventeen and eighteen others from that church (35 in all) joined the new M. P. class, together with a large number of converts. In 1853 the Bethel church had more than 100 members, and among them many of the most prominent and influential citizens of the county. The Buckley, McNeil, Rogers, Overholst and McKeever families are still represented in this church. Bethel church has provided the conference with two ministers, Revs. A. L. McKeever and Moore McNeil, and three ministers wives, Mrs. D. S. Boggs, Mrs. M. Everly and Mrs. B. M. Mitchell; and if I may judge from the young ladies whom I met, (many of them high school, college and university students) I should think a few more ministers wives might be secured over there.

Dr. George Brown, Dr. Peter T. Laishley, Dr. George Nestor, Daniel R. Helmick, W. B. Bolton, George Westfall, Dennis H. Dorsey, Jacob B. McCormick and a large number of lesser lights have preached in Old Bethel church. The old people of the community still tell of the great occasions when the Presidents of the conference would visit the circuit and preach at Bethel, and refer to the sermons preached by Dr. John Foyner fifty years ago (1875); but their attitude toward present conditions reminds you of the ancient men of Israel who had returned from the captivity, when they saw the second temple in building. Hagai 2: 3. But a \$2,000 minister at a salary of \$200, is one of the unattractive things in modern ecclesiasticism.

Droop Mountain Church was organized by Dr. George Brown in 1842 while making a personal visit to the circuit. Rev. Richard H. Walker was the pastor and had been preaching in a private house that stood near where the Droop church now stands. David Cochran and wife, Martha McKeever, Solomon Cochran and wife, Elizabeth Hoover and John McLaughlin were charter members. The present meeting house was built in 1858 under the pastoral supervision of Rev. W. W. Blake. The lumber was all planed by hand. A gallery extends across the rear of the building and the pulpit is "built in" across the platform. In 1845 George Nester was pastor in this valley and lived in the vicinity of Droop Church. He says, "We had two rooms in the home of Elizabeth Morrison. This house had been one of the preaching places of Bishop Asbury and Bishop Soule." Methodism in this valley is as old as any where in America. And seventy years ago the Methodist Protestant Church was in the lead.

The Fairview church is the successor of the old Verdent Valley class, where services were held for many years in an old log school house. Rev. H. A. J. Francis, by request, was buried near where the old school house stood. The grave is unmarked except by a dogwood bush which is growing in the middle of the grave. The Fairview church was built in 1882 by Revs. George W. Barrett and M. L. Smith, pastors. H. H. Sharp and wife, Ewing Sharp and wife, W. E. Johnson and wife, Jacob Sharp and wife, W. H. Irvine and wife, William Harper and wife, J. A. Sharp and Montgomery Friel and

wife were early members.

The Clawson Church was organized by Rev. Howard Underwood in 1907, and the building erected by Rev. D. T. Sharp in 1909. It was named in honor of Rev. Samuel Clawson. May Chapel on Anthony's Creek, was organized by Rev. John Perry in 1908 and the building erected by him in 1909. Other preaching places were Mingo Flats, Cheat Mt., Back Allegheny, Elk, Cummings Creek, Huntersville and Beaver Creek; the latter an old appointment, but still worshipping in the old school house. This is about the extent of our positions in Pocahontas county.

The old quarterly conference records contain the names of Joshua Buckley, David and Solomon Cochran, Jesse Barrett, Abel Adkins, James Rogers, William Morrison, H. B. Kinross, Henry Perry, J. G. Abbott, Jesse McNeill, Clark McNeill, William Perkins, James R. Moore, John Bradshaw, David Gibson, D. D. Hughes, J. G. McNeill, J. R. McCormick, Samuel Gay, William Johnson, J. M. Hogsett, Isaac Collins, James Bradshaw and Abraham Grimes. And from a history of Pocahontas county, I learned that these men were among the leading citizens of the county. In fact the county government was organized, and the first court held at the home of John Bradshaw in Huntersville, he being one of the members of the court. Thus it will be seen that, in these early days, the Methodist Protestant Church had a strong hold upon the best people of the great valley. And there are "A few names yet in Sardinia" that have "kept the faith and are worthy." These people were thrifty, intelligent, religious, liberty loving Scotch Irish folk whose ancestors had taken possession of this valley when it was a favorite hunting ground for the Indians. The high esteem in which the early ministers were held by them is evidenced by the following names: George Brown Cochran (aged 84), Sabina Laishley Buckley (Boggs) Alfred Lister McKeever, George Nestor Coulter, Asa Shinn McNeill, etc.

—I. A. Barnes, in the Methodist Protestant.

Charleston, W. Va.—A statement dealing with expenditures on the main through highways of the State designed in part to correct false impressions, has been issued for publication, by the State Road Commission. It is shown by the statement, that up until June 30 the end of the fiscal year, the Commission had expended \$16,052,116.77. This is divided as follows:

Route 1, (Northwestern Turnpike) \$4,723,613.09.

Route 2, (North and South)—\$3,844,528.19.

Route 3, (Midland Trail) \$4,161,409.43.

Route 4, (North and South) \$3,322,566.06.

These expenditures or authorized expenditures were made out of the proceeds of State Bonds and Federal aid available prior to the last sale of bonds. A considerable part of the proceeds of this last sale is also to be placed under contract for work on the main routes. While the State Road Law makes it impossible to concentrate funds in any part of the State or on any particular route, it has been the consistent policy of the Commission to expend as much as practicable on the through highways. The greater part of the reserve fund, as well as large sums from the apportionments of counties through which these routes pass, has been used in an effort to rush them to completion at the earliest possible date. It is explained that, between Parkersburg and Charleston, because of construction by counties which made early completion possible, there is a digression from route 2 and 14, while between Nuttall Farm and Ellenton, there is a digression from No. 1 over No. 31 and No. 16 to reach Harrisville, county seat of Ritchie county.

Notice to Contractors

Sealed proposals will be received by the State Road Commission of West Virginia at its office in Charleston, West Virginia, until ten o'clock a. m. on the 12th day of August, 1925, and said proposals will be opened and read immediately thereafter at the Kanawha County Court House, Charleston, W. Va., for the construction of the following sections of State Road:

Project 149-A—Pocahontas County—6 miles Top of Elk Mountain toward Randolph County, for grading and draining. Certified check \$5400.00.

Proposals will be received only upon State Standard forms in accordance with plans, specifications and estimates of quantities therefor, which standard forms, plans, specifications and estimates of quantities may be obtained from the office of H. R. Anderson, Division Engineer, Charleston W. Va., or from the office of the State Road Commission at Charleston, W. Va.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified check for the amount noted.

The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals.

STATE ROAD COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA.

E. CARSKADON, Secretary.

No Trespassing

All persons are hereby given notice not to trespass on the lands of the undersigned in any way; especially by hunting, camping, trapping and picking berries.

Paul Sharp

Harter, W. Va.

FORCES UNITE TO FIGHT FAKE CURES

A dispatch has reached the State Department of Health asking West Virginia to join in the nation-wide fight against "quack" advertising and patent medicines. Thousands of people are fooled each year by deceptive advertising of fake cures and medicines, and the National Health Council, together with the Associated Advertising Club of the World met in special conference May 5, to adopt resolutions against this practice.

Tuberculosis, syphilis, gonorrhea and cancer are four diseases which are most dangerous to the lives of the American people today. Advertising of so-called cures for these grave diseases is a great menace to the individual as well as to the community health, it was pointed out at the conference.

Patent medicines do not relieve or cure the illness for which they are offered. In most instances they are comparatively harmless, containing only a simple mixture of herbs and roots, but their greatest danger lies in the fact that they keep the person afflicted from receiving the proper treatment from a competent, skilled physician.

Venerous diseases cannot be cured in a few weeks. Treatment must be given in the first stages of the disease and must be continued for years by a doctor who knows his business, if a cure is to be effected. Many of the terrible cases of insanity, paralysis and idiocy, resulting from syphilis could have been prevented had fake advertising been abolished years ago.

A reader who has been deceived once by fraudulent advertising soon loses complete confidence in all forms of advertising and this becomes a decided economic waste.

This recent conference of health, social and business groups has urged West Virginia to join in stamping out the methods "quack" advertising is employing to deceive unsuspecting people.

Sayings of Sanitary Sam

"Life is not to live, but to be well."

Swat the fly. Your child's life as well as your own may depend on it.

Stamp out Typhoid. It kills One out of every Ten persons who have it.

An open mind and an open bowel are health factors.

Lecott, W. Va.

July 24, 1925.

Editor Times:

In your issue of July 23rd you made a slight error which I beg to correct, this has reference to an item in "Spice Bun" notes as follows: "A. K. Anderson caught a ten pound Pike from the Greenbrier. He is quite a fisherman. He prefers to fish at night." Now while I don't deny that I am quite a fisherman, yet like all good fishermen I am truthful (?) especially so this season. Last summer I caught so many big ones (which got away) that I decided to tell the boys about it.

Bland Nottingham and wife, of Dunmore, W. Va., have returned home after spending a few days visiting her brother W. L. Nottingham.

Mrs. Pete Grogg and family, of Kingwood, W. Va., are visiting J. H. Kerr and other relatives of this part.

Merl Nottingham has returned to Dunmore after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Nottingham.

Miss Mary Warwick, of Cass, W. Va., is visiting her sister, Mrs. B. M. Kerr of Sharon, Pa.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Nottingham, July 11, a daughter, Edna Jane.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Hengen, July 4, a daughter, christened Betty June.

Vernon McCarty and family formerly of Cass are in these parts at present. Mr. McCarty has opened a barber shop in this place.

Frank Ervine is building a large barn for Amos Phillips.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Nottingham, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Nottingham, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Kerr and son George, Miss Mary Warwick and Miss Ruth Miller motored to Waldegrave Park on Lake Erie the Fourth.

Lawrence Sheets, of Pittsburgh spent the week end with friends in this place.

Sterl Nottingham is working in Sharon, Pa., at this writing.

WANTED:—An industrious man can make \$50 to \$100 weekly selling Whitmer's complete line Home Remedies, Toilet Article, Extracts, Soaps, Spices, etc., in Pocahontas County. Goods guaranteed and big repeaters. Car or truck needed. Exclusive territory. Experience unnecessary. Teach you. Pleasant, permanent, profitable work. Write to day for full information.—The H. C. Whitmer Company, Dept. 18, Columbus, Indiana.

I appreciate the boost Doc, but some time when I feel more in humor and not quite so dry I'll tell you about the fifteen pounder over on Clear Creek that I landed with a nine ounce rod and a fly, almost.

Sincerely yours,

A. K. Anderson.

AIRDALES

Puppies from the famous strain of Swiveller and Oorang. Offspring of 11 champions. If you want an all round dog and a true farm dog, get 'em. They are going fast. This is the nicest bunch of puppies I have ever raised. Big boned and perfectly marked. \$10. Shipped on five days approval. I can please the most particular buyer from these. Males only.

W. O. Rockman,

Millpoint, W. Va.

Box 108,

P. R. Yeager

Polaski, Va.

WEST VIRGINIA NOW TO RECORD BIRTHS

IN THE TIME OF CAESAR THE AVERAGE ROMAN LIVED ONLY EIGHTEEN YEARS. MOST OF THE GREAT HEROES AND VILLAINS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION HAD MADE THEIR MARK AND GONE TO THE GUILLOTINE BEFORE THEY WERE THIRTY-FIVE. IN MEDIEVAL TIMES THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE BEST KNOWN PUBLIC FIGURES WAS SIXTY-TWO YEARS. TODAY THE AVERAGE AGE OF OUR NOTABLES IS SEVENTY-ONE YEARS.

APPARENTLY THIS IS NOT, AS SOME SAY, THE ERA OF THE YOUNG MAN. WE ARE LED FOR THE MOST PART BY ELDER STATESMEN, ELDER CORPORATION PRESIDENTS, ELDER PROFESSORS. THERE IS COMFORT IN THAT, TOO, FOR THOSE OF US WHO ARE NOT INFANT PRODIGIES CAN CHERISH THE HOPE THAT THERE IS PLENTY OF TIME, AHEAD IN WHICH TO MAKE GOOD.

THE SPAN OF LIFE, INCREASING CENTURY BY CENTURY, GIVES SPLENDID PROOF THAT SCIENCE IS WORTH WHILE, THAT THE RACE HAS TAKEN THOUGHT FOR THE MORROW, THAT FATALISM IS A BARREN PHILOSOPHY AND THAT MAN CAN INDEED LIFT HIMSELF BY HIS OWN BOOTSTRAPS.

THE CHEMIST POTTERING WITH TEST TUBES, THE BIOLOGIST LOSING HIMSELF IN THE JUNGLE, THE ENGINEER DIGGING, THE SURGEON POISING THE KNIFE, THE PHYSICIST WEIGHING DUST AND MOISTURE, THESE ARE THE LIFE BRINGERS, BUILDING TOWARD IMMORTALITY.

RESEARCH GOES ON IN THE NOBLE FAITH THAT THERE IS MORE TO KNOW AND MUCH TO DO. AND THOUGHTS BABIES THAT WOULD HAVE DIED ARE MADE TO LIVE, AND MINDS AND BODIES THAT WOULD HAVE WORN OUT AT FORTY ARE HALO AND STRONG, DOING THEIR WORK AND GETTING THEIR FUN IN A WORLD WORTH HAVING.—COLLEGE'S MAGAZINE.

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